

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

Order Instituting Rulemaking on the  
Commission's Proposed Policies and Programs  
Governing Low-Income Assistance Programs.

Rulemaking 01-08-027

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING  
AND NOTICE OF PREHEARING CONFERENCE FOR  
PY2003 LOW-INCOME ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

On February 27, 2002, the Assigned Commissioner issued a ruling regarding post-2001 planning for low-income assistance programs. In that ruling, he stated his intent to hold a further prehearing conference (PHC) in July, 2002 for the following purpose:

"...sometime before the end of 2002, we need to establish a process for evaluating the results of rapid deployment so that the lessons learned and best practices can be incorporated into program planning. I believe that the [Low Income Oversight Board] LIOB can provide valuable input in establishing priorities for this effort. I plan to hold a further PHC in July, 2002 to address the schedule and scope for this evaluation, as well as the schedule for addressing the utilities' [program year] PY2003 program applications. We will also revisit the issue of how frequently the utilities should file their rapid deployment status reports."<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Assigned Commissioner's Ruling Regarding Post-2001 Program Planning For Low-Income Assistance Programs, February 27, 2002, p. 6.

In that ruling, the Assigned Commissioner also directed Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Diego Gas & Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company and Southern California Gas Company to file their PY2003 low-income assistance program plans and budgets by July 1, 2002. By ruling dated April 19, 2002, the Assigned Commissioners in this proceeding and Application 02-02-012 directed Avista Utilities, Bear Valley Electric Company, PacificCorp, Southwest Gas Company and Sierra Pacific Power Company to also file their post-2002 program plans by July 1, 2002.

A PHC will be held on July 22, 2002, at the Commission's Courtroom, State Office Building, 505 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco. The PHC will commence at 10:00 a.m., and is likely to continue into the afternoon. I anticipate that I will ask parties to meet with Energy Division during the lunch break to discuss scheduling options and other procedural matters prior to the afternoon session.

LIOB, the utilities and interested parties should file PHC statements that address the following:

- Priorities for evaluating the results of rapid deployment—i.e., what are the most important attributes or accomplishments to evaluate, how and by whom should they be evaluated? The PHC statements should include a proposed schedule for issuing evaluation report(s), obtaining public input on the reports, and Commission review.
- Schedule for evaluating the PY2003 program applications filed on July 1, 2002 by Pacific Gas and Electric Company, San Diego Gas & Electric Company, Southern California Edison Company, Southern California Gas Company, Southwest Gas Company, Avista Utilities, Bear Valley Electric Company, PacificCorp and Sierra Pacific Power Company. The schedule should clearly indicate whether evidentiary hearings are needed for any or all of these applications.

- Scoping or other procedural issues related to the above-referenced applications.

The PHC statements are due by July 15, 2002. Prior to submitting a PHC, I encourage the LIOB to obtain input from the utilities, interested parties and the general public on these issues, particularly with respect to evaluation priorities.

All filings and comments shall be filed at the Commission's Docket Office and served electronically on all appearances and the state service list in this proceeding. Service by U.S. mail is optional, except that one hard copy shall be mailed to Judge Meg Gottstein at P.O. Box 210, Volcano, CA 95689. In addition, if there is no electronic mail address available, the electronic mail is returned to the sender, or the recipient informs the sender of an inability to open the document, the sender shall immediately arrange for alternate service (regular U.S. mail shall be the default, unless another means—such as overnight delivery—is mutually agreed upon). Parties that prefer a hard copy or electronic file in original format in order to prepare analysis and filings in this proceeding may request service in that form as well. The current service list for this proceeding is available on the Commission's web page, [www.cpuc.ca.gov](http://www.cpuc.ca.gov).

Dated May 30, 2002, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ MEG GOTTSTEIN

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Meg Gottstein  
Administrative Law Judge

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I certify that I have by mail this day served a true copy of the original attached Administrative Law Judge's Ruling and Notice of Prehearing Conference for PY2003 Low-Income Assistance Programs on all parties of record in this proceeding or their attorneys of record. In addition, service was also performed by electronic mail.

Dated May 30, 2002, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ FANNIE SID

Fannie Sid

**N O T I C E**

Parties should notify the Process Office, Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2000, San Francisco, CA 94102, of any change of address to insure that they continue to receive documents. You must indicate the proceeding number on the service list on which your name appears.

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The Commission's policy is to schedule hearings (meetings, workshops, etc.) in locations that are accessible to people with disabilities. To verify that a particular location is accessible, call: Calendar Clerk (415) 703-1203.

If specialized accommodations for the disabled are needed, e.g., sign language interpreters, those making the arrangements must call the Public Advisor at (415) 703-2074 or TTY# 1-866-836-7825 or (415) 703-5282 at least three working days in advance of the event.